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January 16, 2017

FCC Commissioners
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, DC 20554

Welina(Greetings) FCC Commissioners:

Subject: Response to FCC orders on Sandwich Isles Communications, WC Docket no.
10-90

I am writing in the capacities of a SIC employee and as a Native Hawaiian in support of Sandwich Isles Communications (SIC), which provides telephone and internet services to underserved and unserved native Hawaiian homesteaders. SIC in its continued service to native Hawaiians, contributes to the fulfillment of the principle purposes of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920 by *"Providing financial support and technical assistance to native Hawaiian beneficiaries of this Act so that by pursuing strategies to enhance economic self-sufficiency and promote community-based development, the traditions, culture and quality of life of native Hawaiians shall be forever self-sustaining."* Albert S.N. Hee himself a native Hawaiian and Kamehameha Schools alumnus, via SIC took on the *kuleana*, (responsibility) of providing fellow native Hawaiians with communication pathways that did not exist prior to his efforts. Hawaii's main carrier at the time former GTE/Verizon failed to step up to the plate nor could the FCC require them to provide the necessary infrastructure to the "high cost, low profit" regions established by the Act at affordable costs to native Hawaiians. Instead they chose to offer high installation cost options. An example from 1992; installation of infrastructure in a single service area was as high as 22% of the median income for a family of four in the State of Hawaii or 23% of the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL) administrative and operating budget for that year. When compared to SIC's installation cost options of 0% to .07% for the same economic demographic and period, it becomes obvious the absorption of the significant costs by SIC provided tremendous economic benefits to native Hawaiian homesteaders and DHHL.

You may be wondering why I chose to identify Albert S.N. Hee as a native Hawaiian and Kamehameha School alumnus. It is construed in Hawaiian society to have the ability and or means to provide for the better good of your fellow *kanaka*, (man) to misuse or deny those qualities in a beneficial manner is to bring great shame and offense to your lineage and every instance from time immemorial that has brought to bear these gifts is defined as kuleana. As Native Hawaiians, we pass through gates of learning and maturity which add to our kuleana as we progress through life's cycles. Upon his graduation from Kamehameha Schools in 1972 Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop bestowed this kuleana to all of her alumnus; *"to support the mission of Kamehameha Schools by seeking and developing new and diverse sources of income to support the ever-increasing educational needs and goals of people of Hawaiian ancestry."* In 1984 Albert S.N. Hee became a direct beneficiary of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920 when he was added to the DHHL Applicant Waiting List placing him in the very category of an underserved and unserved native Hawaiian homesteader. In 1988 he embodied the fulfillment of this kuleana through *"SIC's commitment to provide a modern, next generation, high-speed telecommunication infrastructure that serves Hawaiian Homelands Statewide."* In 2007 when I became an employee of SIC this kuleana was passed on to me just as it was to every other SIC employee. A responsibility I take to heart and work tirelessly at fulfilling. It is my wish and strong desire to continue contributing to this good work and mission following in his footsteps by continuing to fulfill this kuleana serving in the continued capacity as a Sandwich Isles Communications employee under Sandwich Isles Communications leadership.

Me ka ha'aha'a (Humbly yours),

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert S. Kakalia', written in a cursive style.

Robert "Randy" SK Kakalia

SIC Technical Specialist